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Nigeria: A spate of anti-US propaganda in federal Nigeria may cause problems for resident US citizens.

Criticism of the US is widespread. The US is being blamed for the current problem over oil royalty payments, and Biafra's use of a B-26 bomber is cited as proof of US support of Ojukwu. The most strongly worded material has been in the North. If federal troops should fare badly in Biafra, Americans and other foreigners could quickly become the object of mob hostility.

The stalemated civil conflict, now two weeks old, may soon be renewed on two fronts. Four ships of the Nigerian Navy, including a landing craft loaded with troops, left Lagos on 19 July, possibly to carry out an amphibious landing somewhere on the Biafran coast. They may first stop off in the Mid-West Region, to pick up other federal forces and this may delay the operation. Biafran military officials also told reporters on 19 July that the federal army is expected to launch a new attack soon to take Nsukka.

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Mexico - Communist China: Mexican authorities have disrupted a new Chinese Communist effort to support a working subversive apparatus in Mexico.

Thirteen pro-Chinese leftists financed by the New China News Agency (NCNA) were arrested on 19 July. The Mexican Government has publicly charged that, prior to the withdrawal of NCNA personnel from Mexico City last October, the office there had provided clandestine support for "armed rebellion." Peking recently requested visas for the return of three NCNA officers to Mexico. Mexican President Diaz Ordaz is reportedly opposed to readmitting the Chinese, and in light of the recent arrests the applications will almost certainly be rejected.

The leftist group, whose leader has departed for Communist China, has reportedly been receiving approximately \$1,600 per month from the Chinese. The leftists were picked up in connection with a recent attack on an army truck, apparently to procure arms.

An anti-Communist crackdown had been expected in Mexico after elections earlier this month were over. The Mexicans have been relatively tolerant of the weak Communist movement in their country but are disturbed by the increase in indications of activities by hard-line revolutionary groups over the past three years. These groups have had considerable success in infiltrating student organizations and played a key role last October in disturbances which required federal intervention at the university in Morelia. [redacted]

Panama: President Robles' push for early ratification of the canal treaties is meeting major opposition and may lead to a protracted controversy within the government coalition.

Because of the opposition, Robles has postponed his intended trip to Washington in early August for a signing ceremony. He plans to consult with key members of the National Assembly before setting another date. Some deputies who expect political favors in return for their vote have warned that if Robles maintains his "high-handed attitude" the assembly might refuse him permission to leave the country.

Robles is reportedly no longer sure that it would be advisable to convoke a special session of the assembly to ratify the treaties. Most of the progovernment deputies favor postponing debate until the regular session opens on 1 October, or even until after the presidential election next May, in order to allow for more study of the draft.

[redacted] any attempt to force early ratification will cause the assembly to reject the treaties.

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NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATES

The United States Intelligence Board on 20 July 1967
approved the following national intelligence estimates:



NIE 80/90-67, "Economic Trends and Prospects
in Latin America"



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